

Response
Serial No. 09/604,835
Page 4

IN THE CLAIMS

Please reconsider the claims as follows:

1-16. (Cancelled)

17. (New) A system, comprising:

a transport stream generator for generating and providing at least one transport stream to a plurality of terminals, the transport stream including an interactive program guide (IPG), the IPG including a plurality of video segments, the video segments including a set of frequently accessed video segments that are broadcast continuously and a set of less frequently accessed video segments that are demand-cast; and

a session manager for managing delivery of the IPG and for monitoring demand-cast stream usage by the terminals, and for requesting that the transport stream generator insert one of the less frequently accessed video segments into the transport stream, upon request from one of the terminals and based on the demand-cast stream usage.

18. The system of claim 17, further comprising:

a distribution center including the transport stream generator and the session manager.

19. The system of claim 17, wherein the transport stream generator is at a set of local neighborhood equipment and the session manager is at a headend.

20. The system of claim 17, wherein one of terminals sends a request to the session manager for one of the less frequently accessed video segments, when a user selects a video object in the IPG.

21. The system of claim 17, wherein the less frequently accessed video segments include a plurality of previews and a plurality of advertisements.

379404-1

Response
Serial No. 09/604,835
Page 5

22. The system of claim 17, wherein the less frequently accessed video segments are pull demand-cast.

23. The system of claim 17, wherein the session manager de-registers one of the terminals from a transport stream registry, after a period of time within which the terminal did not release the demand-cast stream.

24. The system of claim 17, wherein the session manager registers one of the terminals to a transport stream registry, after the terminal acquires a demand-cast stream.